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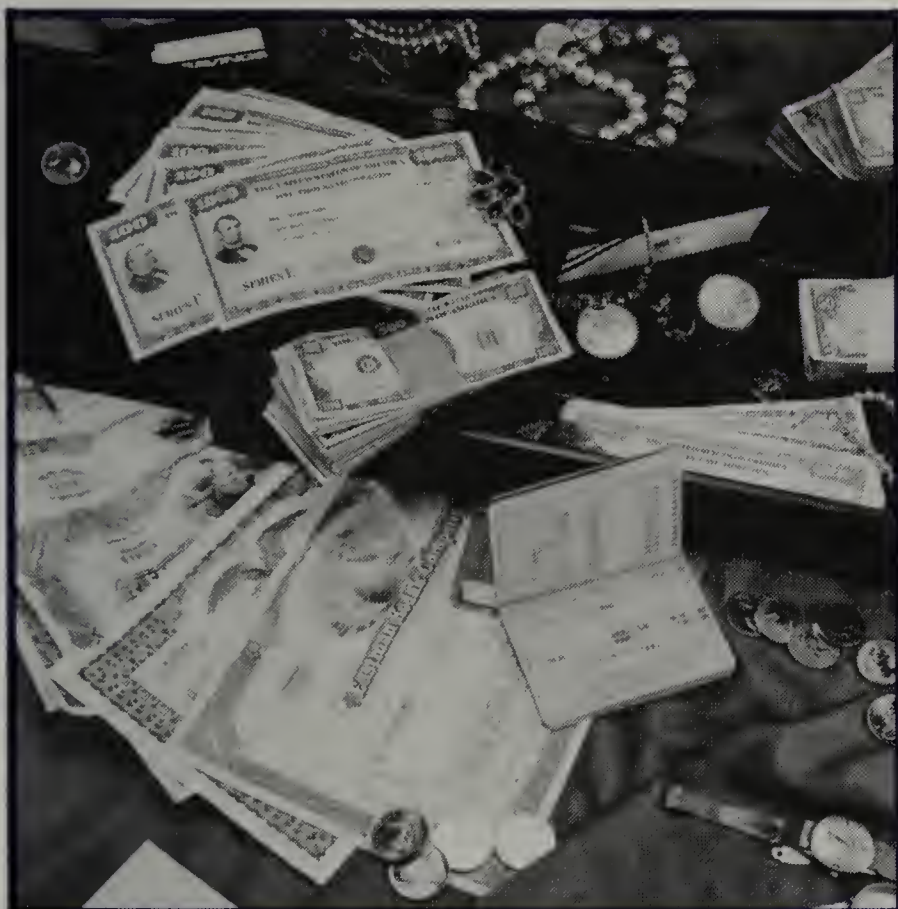


ate of Illinois

Department of Financial Institutions

Jim Edgar
Governor

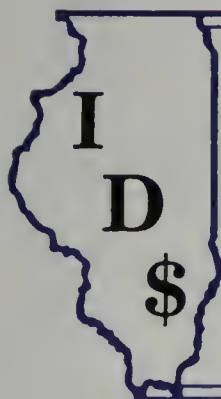
Gilbert G. Ruiz
Director



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ILLINOIS DOCUMENTS



Illinois Discovery System

*"A program of the Department of
Financial Institutions,
Unclaimed Property Division"*

WHAT IS UNCLAIMED PROPERTY?

Any financial asset that has remained abandoned by its owner for a 5 year period of time. This includes:

- inactive savings and checking accounts
- safe deposit box contents
- uncashed checks, money orders, and gift certificates
- unclaimed wages
- stock shares, dividends, mutual funds
- utility deposits
- paid-up life insurance policies
- uncashed death benefit checks
- estates
- court ordered distributions
- retirement, pension benefits

HOW DOES PROPERTY BECOME "UNCLAIMED"?

In accordance with the Uniform Disposition of Unclaimed Property Act passed by the Illinois General Assembly in 1961, property is assumed abandoned when it has remained unclaimed for 5 years and the owner cannot be contacted by the holder of the property.

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WHERE DOES UNCLAIMED PROPERTY COME FROM?

The State receives unclaimed property from businesses, non-profit organizations, and governmental entities doing business with Illinois residents. We refer to these entities as "holders". This includes, but is not limited to, corporations, partnerships, financial institutions, federal, state, and local governments, utilities, and charitable organizations.

HOW IS UNCLAIMED PROPERTY COLLECTED?

According to Illinois law, unclaimed property is to be remitted to the State only after these two activities take place:

- A. No activity in the account for 5 years
- B. The holder of the property attempts to contact the owner

WHAT DOES THE STATE DO WITH THE UNCLAIMED PROPERTY?

Illinois is a "custodial" state. This means the assets are held indefinitely for the owner or legal heir. Owners or heirs can ALWAYS claim their financial asset; there is no time limit.

WHAT ATTEMPTS ARE MADE TO FIND THE RIGHTFUL OWNERS?

Under the law, the holders must make an effort to contact owners. If they are unsuccessful, they report the names and last known addresses of owners to the Department of Financial Institutions. The Department publishes these names in newspapers across the State. If an owner sees his name and makes an inquiry, the Department researches the inquiry and, if assets belonging to the owner are found, will contact the owners regarding how a claim may be made.

HOW DOES AN OWNER COLLECT ASSETS HELD BY THE STATE?

The Department of Financial Institutions provides the rightful owner or heir with a claim form. The form must be completed correctly and returned to the Department before a claim is paid. In many instances, the owner or heir is required to submit supporting documents such as a birth, death, or marriage certificate, wills, bank statements, or old tax bills to prove their right to claim the abandoned property.

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If you want the Unclaimed Property Division to determine if it's holding unclaimed or abandoned property for you OR a deceased relative for whom you are an heir, please complete the following form and mail to:

State of Illinois
Department of Financial Institutions
Unclaimed Property Division
P.O. Box 19495
Springfield, IL 62794-9495

Please let me know if Illinois is holding unclaimed property for me.

My Name: _____
(Maiden name, if applicable)

Current Address: _____

Former Addresses:

1. _____

2. _____

(If more than two, please attach an additional sheet.)

If you are an Heir, also include:

Deceased Relative's Name: _____

Former Addresses:

1. _____

2. _____

To Prevent Your Assets From Becoming Unclaimed Follow These Suggestions:

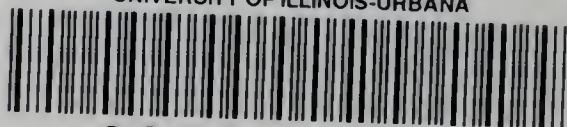
- Keep accurate financial records of bank accounts, stocks, safe deposit boxes, and life insurance policies.
- Have interest posted for saving/checking accounts at least once a year.
- Correspond with all financial institutions holding savings, checking, IRA, Keogh, etc., accounts at least once every three years.
- Cash all checks for dividends, insurance premiums, and wages. ✓
- Notify a family member or trusted advisor of the location of your records.
- Prepare a checklist of financial assets in order to notify all concerned parties if you change your address.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE WRITE:

State of Illinois
Department of Financial Institutions
Unclaimed Property Division
P.O. Box 19495
Springfield, IL 62794-9495

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